

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

Cancel claims 20 and 27 without prejudice;

Rewrite claims 19, 25, 26, and 29-31 as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A printing machine comprising:

a plurality of printing units for applying a liquid medium to a side of printing material at the operating speed of the machine; said printing units each having a first cylinder and an associated sheet carrying cylinder, said sheet carrying cylinder having grippers for engaging and transferring a sheet through a printing nip defined between said first cylinder and said associated sheet carrying cylinder whereby a liquid medium can be applied to said printing material; the first cylinder of at least one of said printing units being moveable to a print off position relative to its respective sheet carrying cylinder so that the printing unit is not operatively involved in a printing process during operation of the machine; said first cylinder of said at least one printing unit.

~~at least one of said printing units being non-operating so as not to be involved in a printing process during operation of the machine;~~

~~said at least one non-operating printing unit having a first cylinder and an associated sheet-carrying cylinder, said sheet-carrying cylinder having grippers for engaging and transferring a sheet through a nip defined between said first cylinder and said associated sheet-carrying cylinder, and said first cylinder having a liquid repellent surface and being rotatable at an the operating speed of the printing machine with said associated sheet-carrying cylinder conveying printing material through said nip with a printed side of said printing material facing said first cylinder.~~

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder is a plate cylinder having an ink repellent surface.

22. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said printing surface is defined by a printing plate on said first cylinder.

23. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said printing surface is defined by a film on said first cylinder.

24. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said printing surface is defined by a layer of silicone rubber.

25. (Currently Amended) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder has a printing surface is defined by a planographic printing plate operable for use in dampening-solution-free offset printing.

26. (Currently Amended) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder has a printing surface is defined by a relief surfaced printing plate.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder is positionable in relation to the sheet-carrying cylinder with a predetermined printing pressure.

29. (Currently Amended) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder has a printing surface is defined by a composition that contains at least one of chromium, aluminum, or anodized aluminum.

30. (Currently Amended) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said first cylinder has a printing surface is defined by an organic or inorganic hybrid polymer on an aluminum substrate.

31. (Currently Amended) The printing machine of claim 29 in which said first cylinder has a printing surface with has discontinuities such as cracks, gaps or pores which are filled with inlays of at least one fluoropolymer ~~fluoropolymer~~.

32. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 in which said printing surface is polished to a mirror finish.

33. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 including a metering system and applicator roll for applying a release agent to the printing surface.

34. (Previously Presented) The printing machine of claim 19 including a spray device extending the axial length of said first cylinder for directing a release agent onto the printing surface.

35. (New) The printing machine of claim 19 including a device for controlling the temperature of the printing surface.

36. (New) The printing machine of claim 19 including a cold air temperature control device for controlling the temperature of the printing surface.

37. (New) The printing machine of claim 36 in which said temperature control device is operable within the first cylinder.